

Spring 1-15-2000

ENG 3001-006: Advanced Composition

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3001-006
DR

**English 3001: Advanced Composition
Spring 2000**

Instructor: Dr. Jerie Weasmer
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e-mail: cfjrw1@eiu.edu
Hours: T & R 8:30-11
MWF Appointment

Requirements: You must complete all parts of all assignments to receive credit for the class. Due to the amount of in-class exchange attendance is included in your evaluation.

Attendance: One absence will be excused. Each subsequent absence without proof of medical or legal emergency will result in a 10-point grade drop. Ten bonus points will be awarded for perfect attendance.

I. Course Description

Advanced Composition 3001 centers on an advanced application of the principles of expository writing. You will explore a variety of data bases and research sources.

II. Course Objectives

In this class you will

- A. Become more familiar with issues in your major field. Interview experts in your area to develop a theoretical grounding and an awareness of application.
- B. Explore and consider a variety of perspectives on a specific issue in your field. Establish and defend a position.
- C. Develop an awareness of discourse communities. Write for a predetermined audience in your major area.
- D. Compose papers that reflect a writing process that includes formulating a thesis, planning and drafting, revising for clarity and organization, documenting sources, and polishing.
- E. Share writing and give/receive feedback with classmates. Develop critical reading skills to apply to your own writing.
- F. Expand awareness of computer data bases for research.

III. Course Format

- A. Response journal: Responses to a **minimum** of ten articles, one book, and three interviews on your chosen topic are required. Responses will be maintained on a 3.5 disc but an additional notebook or pocket folder may be needed. In-class writing will also be housed in the response journal.

- B. Discussion: In-class discussions will focus on writing processes, computer data bases, response to peer essays, and questions as they arise.
- C. Peer response: Sharing of writing at various stages of the writing process is required.
- D. Listserve: Discuss a key idea/issue emerging from your reading; respond to a comment/question of a classmate.
- E. Drafting: Compose writing assignments in progression toward a publishable professional article.

IV. Course Requirements

- A. Working portfolio
 - 1. Includes all drafts of all required papers, whether the piece was started and aborted or revised and redrafted.
 - 2. Entries should be dated and situated in the portfolio in the order they were written. If computer disks are submitted, file names and program used should be identified on the front of the disk.
- B. Final portfolio
 - 1. Contains final drafts of all formal writing assignments. These must be in hard copy and in accordance with a specific associated format (i.e. APA, MLA, ASA, Chicago).
 - 2. Includes a reflective letter describing your application of class information and a self-analysis defining yourself as a writer, identifying goals and strengths, and using critical evaluation to assign yourself a grade.
- C. Response journal
 - 1. Includes responses to all assigned readings, observations, and interviews.
 - 2. Houses all in-class writing.
- D. Listserve
 - 1. A **minimum** of three entries per week is required.
 - 2. Entries may (1) present new information from your research (**minimum one per week**), (2) pose questions on writing, forming an argument, citing a source, etc., or (3) respond to someone else's entry.

V. Evaluation

Course grade will be determined by the following:

1.	Definition Essay	50 points
2.	Review of the Literature	75 points
3.	Persuasive Essay	75 points
4.	Final project	100 points
5.	Response journal	75 points
6.	Peer response	50 points
7.	Listserve entries	75 points
8.	Oral presentation	50 points
9.	Attitude, preparedness, participation	<u>50 points</u>
	Total	600 points

Schedule of Expectations

- 1/11 Introduction to course
Assignment: Establish hotmail or other broad-based account. (NOT pen)
As group or individual briefly interview 1-3 professors in your major area to find out (a) key issues in the field, (b) the ways in which they most use writing, and (c) the professional journals they recommend you consult. Take notes and reflect on the interview(s) in your journal(s).
- 1/13 Discuss discourse communities—Examine samples
Assignment: Examine 3-5 professional journals to determine discourse communities. Select **at least** three journals to analyze. Consider the title of the journal, subjects of articles, kinds of writing, vocabulary, and advertisements. Use the listserve to discuss. Choose a professional journal that you think would be appropriate for the type of article you would like to write. Record/photo copy the criteria for publication in that journal. E-mail me a message discussing the discourse community who read this journal, the type of article you believe has a good chance of being accepted for publication to this journal, and your plan for composing an article.
- 1/18 Introduction to computer data bases
Assignment: subscribe to the listserve
print first page of First Search data base
print ERIC entry

print 2 entries from web on topics you may research
Hand in printed data pages (in pocket folder)
Discuss interview experience and computer searches

- 1/20 Deadline for analysis of discourse communities and plan for article.
Respond on listserve.
Discussion on research progress. Brainstorm frequently used terms.
Assignment: 2-3 page essay defining a specialized term or concept using the discourse community of the journal you have selected as your audience. It will be necessary to first give a literal definition/description and then go on to contextualize the term/idea within the field. Use specific examples to aid the audience in clarifying. Due 2/1.
- 1/25-27 Individual conferences on your progress. Work on essay or entries on listserve.
Read a **minimum** of 10 articles and a **minimum** of one book on the issue you have chosen for your article. Interview experts. Respond as you read in your response journal, citing pages you are referencing. Share what you are finding on the listserve.
- 2/1 Bring your essay ON DISK to class. Share definition essays.
Assignment: Revision of definition essays due 2/8.
- 2/3 Continue to research your topic at the library or on the web. Remember to respond as you read in your journal to all material, citing pages. Bring materials to class. Bring APA.
- 2/8 Revision of definition essay due in hard copy. Silent sharing.
Discuss characteristics of a literature review. Sample.
Assignment: Construct a review of the articles/books you are reading on your topic. Be careful to organize similar information in "chunks" and to provide smooth transitions from one idea/issue to the next. Include bibliography following your field's style manual. Schedule conference times if you have questions or concerns. Due 2/22: Hard copy. Respond on listserve, citing pages.
- 2/10 Continue work on response to readings and listserve. Class will not meet.
- 2/15 Bring all materials including response journal to class. Bring APA manual to work on your reference page. 2/17 Class will not meet.
- 2/22 Share lit. reviews (hard copy).
Assignment: Revision of lit. review on disk plus one hard copy due 2/29.
- 2/29 Silent sharing of revised review of the literature ON DISK.
- 3/2 Review your efforts on the listserve, response journal, composing essays and peer response. Compose a reflective letter and a course evaluation. Assign yourself a midterm grade based on the quality of your work and the effort you have extended. All responses to assigned readings due.
Clearly labeled Working and Final Portfolios due.
Three listserve entries per week due (minimum total 21).

-----MIDTERM-----

- 3/7 Take a position on your topic and freewrite. You may refer to notes, texts, articles if you like but it is not required. The goal is to write about the topic in your voice. Share.
Assignment: Write a persuasive essay on the issue you have been researching. Be sure that your position is clearly presented and defended, using examples from your reading, expert interviews, or your personal experience. You will need to meet the opposition. Due 3/23.

3/14-16 Spring Break

- 3/21 Run a new data search on your topic to discover new information released in the last 8 weeks. Work on persuasive essay. Interview experts. Class meeting in lab is by choice.
- 3/23 Share persuasive essays on disk. Revision due 3/30. Sign up for oral presentations.
Assignment: Prepare an 8-10 minute formal oral presentation on your research such as might be presented at a professional conference. Portions may be read to insure correctness in citing. You will be expected to dress and act as a professional addressing the audience for whom your journal article is intended. Define this audience for the class before beginning your presentation. Oral presentations begin 4/4. Sign up for presentation times. Article due 4/20.
- 3/28 Work on revisions. Work on formal presentation. Listserve. Class will not meet.
- 3/30 Revision of Persuasive Essay due in hard copy. Share/Respond.
Work on articles and oral presentation, including visual aids if they will enhance your presentation. Listserve. Interviews. You may want to consider Power Point.
Assignment: Using the information you have gathered and written about in a variety of mediums and for a variety of audiences, prepare an article suitable for publication. Attach the publishing specifications for that particular journal. Due 4/13 ON DISK.
- 4/13 Share hard copy of article in groups of three. Revision due 4/20.

4/18-20-25-27 Oral presentations.

- 4/27 *Assignment:* Review your efforts for the semester. Consider Listserve entries, essays, revisions, peer response, oral presentation, and final article. Compose a reflective letter and a course evaluation. Assign yourself a final grade based on the quality of your work and the efforts you have put forth. Hand in your working and final portfolios with the reflective letter and the course evaluation. Be sure you have completed a minimum of three listserve responses per week for 15 weeks.
Revised article due
Working and final portfolios due
Reflective letter due
Course evaluation due